

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 436
By McAfee

A RESOLUTION to honor Edward T. "Ned" Luther on the occasion
of his retirement as State Geologist and Director
of the state Division of Geology.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body recognize those who in
their years of work with the state have performed with extraordinary dedication and
unprecedented devotion; and

WHEREAS, Edward T. "Ned" Luther is one such exceptional person who has served
with alacrity and acuity for more than 44 years with the Tennessee Geological Survey; and

WHEREAS, born on February 11, 1928, Mr. Luther attended public schools in Nashville,
Tennessee, and served his country admirably in the United States Navy from March, 1946, to
January, 1948, working his way up to petty officer, third class; and

WHEREAS, he received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Vanderbilt University in 1950
(Cum Laude). With a major in geology and a minor in chemistry, he had a 2.234 grade point
average out of a possible 3.0 and finished 63rd in a class of 480; and

WHEREAS, after attending a geology field camp at the University of Wyoming in the
summer of 1950, Mr. Luther received his Master of Science degree from Vanderbilt in 1951,
having compiled a perfect 3.0 grade point average. His thesis topic was "Geology of the Spring
Hill Area, Maury and Williamson Counties, Tennessee"; and

WHEREAS, his post-graduate work included the full spectrum of management courses offered by the state, various technical society and computer courses; and

WHEREAS, from 1951-1957, Mr. Luther expertly served in the positions of Geologist and Senior Geologist with the Tennessee Division of Geology from June-December, 1957, as Fuels Engineer with the Tennessee Valley Authority and from 1958-1961 as Principal Geologist with the Tennessee Division of Geology; and

WHEREAS, because of the excellent quality of his work in each of these posts, he was chosen assistant state geologist in 1961, an important post he held until 1990. His responsibilities included supervising the division research program, which consisted of aerial geological mapping, field work coordination, evaluating finished work for needed revision or additional work, helping field men resolve knotty stratigraphic or structural problems, editing the material, and acting as resource person for anyone needing information on coal or Pennsylvanian stratigraphy in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, during the last ten years as assistant state geologist, he was the principal administrative aide to two successive state geologists, with responsibility for budget-making, hiring and employee evaluation. He also served as acting state geologist twice; and

WHEREAS, from October 1, 1990, until his retirement on December 18, 1995, Mr. Luther served as state geologist and director of the division of geology; and

WHEREAS, in each position he held, he was highly praised for his work; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Luther has been married to his charming wife, Patricia "Pat" Luther, since 1955, and this blessed union has produced two outstanding children, a daughter, Margaret "Peg" Luther Smath, and a son, Dan; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to specially recognize this diligent public servant on the occasion of his retirement; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we recognize and honor Edward T. "Ned" Luther on his retirement as director of the division of geology and as a state geologist, wishing him well in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution, with this final resolving clause deleted, be presented to Mr. Luther.

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